bp



Customer No. 04249 BP AMERICA INC.

JUL 1 1 2005

**BP LEGAL** 

4101 Winfield Road, Mail Code 5 East Warrenville, IL 60555 Phone No.: 630/821-2465 Fax No.: 630/821-3383 Email: wilsonca2@hp.com

## **FACSIMILE TRANSMISSION**

DATE:

July 11, 2005

TO:

Mail Stop Amendment Commissioner for Patents

United States Patent and Trademark Office

FAX NO.:

703-872-9306

THIS TRANSMISSION CONSISTS OF 6 pages (including this page)

FROM:

Carol A. Wilson

Paralegal, IP Group

RE:

Application No.:

10/674,246 (Confirmation No. 3185)

Filed:

September 29, 2003

Applicants:

Sawchuk et al.

Group Art Unit.

1754

Examiner:

Edward M. Johnson

Attorney Docket:

39,816

Attached please find the following documents:

Response to Restriction Requirement

Supplemental Information Disclosure Statement

## Certificate of Transmission

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being facsimile transmitted to the United States Patent and Trademark Office, Fax No. 703-872-9306, on July 11, 2005, by:

Carol A. Wilson

This communication contains information from BP p.l.c. or its affiliates and is intended only for the personal and confidential use of the addressec(s) named above. This communication may be an attorney-client communication and/or work product and as such is privileged and confidential. If the reader of this message is not the intended addressee(s) or an agent responsible for delivering it to the intended addressee(s), you are hereby notified that you have received this document in error and that any review, dissemination, distribution, or copying of this communication is strictly prohibited. If you have received this communication in error, please notify us immediately by return e-mail or FAX, as the case may be, and delete or destroy the original communication.

)

RECEIVED CENTRAL FAX CENTER

## IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

JUL 1 1 2003 APPLICANTS: Sawchuk et al. Customer No. 04249 ) **APPLICATION NO.: 10/674,246** Group Art Unit: 1754 FILED: September 29, 2003 Examiner: Edward M. Johnson ) FOR: A SYSTEM AND A METHOD FOR LIQUEFYING Attomey Docket No.: VARIABLE SELECTED QUANTITIES OF LIGHT 39,816-00 HYDROCARBON GAS WITH A PLURALITY OF LIGHT HYDROCARBON GAS LIQUEFACTION **TRAINS** 

## RESPONSE TO RESTRICTION REQUIREMENT

Commissioner For Patents P.O. Box 1450 Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

ANY ADDITIONAL FEES REQUIRED CHARGE TO DEPOSIT ACCOUNT NO. 01-0528

Sir:

Responsive to the Office Action mailed June 16, 2005, Applicants submit this Response to Restriction Requirement.

Claims 1-17 are pending in the Application. In the Office Action, the pending claims are subjected to a restriction requirement described as follows:

Group I – Claims 1-10 drawn to a method for removing a substance (acid gases) from a light hydrocarbon gas feed stream, classified in class 423, subclass 210;

Group II – Claims 11-14 drawn to a system for dewatering a light hydrocarbon gas feed stream, classified in class 422, subclass 255; and

Group III - Claims 15-17 drawn to a method for a liquefaction process, classified in class 208, subclass 400.

Applicants elect Group III without traverse. However, Applicants do not agree with the basis supporting the restriction requirement. It is clear that all three groups of claims are directed to a method or system used for liquefaction of a light hydrocarbon gas. Other than conclusory statements to the effect that the claimed system can be used to practice a materially different process or that the process as claimed can be performed in materially different apparatus, there is no clear factual basis to support the restriction. Further, searching all of the pending claims would not be overly burdensome. Notwithstanding the foregoing, Applicants have elected Group III without traverse in order to advance prosecution of this Application.

Applicants submit that Claims 1-17 are in condition for allowance and, therefore, respectfully request allowance of these claims at an early date.

Respectfully submitted,

John/L. Wood/ Attorney For Applicants

Registration No. 32,183

(281) 366-2073